



Navy & Marine Corps Public Health Center “Quick Hits”



November 2012

Tobacco Cessation—Metrics & Analysis

In Fiscal Year 2007, BUMED instated the Performance Based Budget (PBB) concept to create incentive for targeted clinical interventions to improve quality of care. The PBB pay-for-performance initiatives are employed throughout the civilian and military healthcare systems to select key focus areas for study, and to reward quality delivery of healthcare.

Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable death in the U.S., and remains a significant challenge to military health system clinicians. Around the time that BUMED introduced the PBB initiative, the Health Analysis Department became involved in coincident data analysis and metric development. To enable physicians and facilities to track tobacco use among patients, Health Analysis created three tobacco cessation metrics:

- ▶ Tobacco Use Screening: Measures the percent of outpatient visits receiving vital signs in which tobacco use status was documented.
- ▶ Tobacco use Diagnosis: Measures the percent of reported tobacco users documented with a tobacco related ICD-9 code.
- ▶ Tobacco Use Intervention: Measures the percent of documented tobacco users counseled or prescribed a tobacco cessation intervention.

The metrics are based on clinical practice guidelines (CPG) for treating tobacco use and dependence. These metrics aim to standardize Navy Medicine’s tobacco use diagnosis process and documentation in patient records. Based on these metrics, facilities can identify current users and proceed with recommended intervention. Multiple well-designed randomized clinical trials support increased rates of clinical intervention and increased cessation rates from clinician adherence to consistent tobacco screening. The Health Analysis metrics support CPG recommendations and encourage increased attention to tobacco use from medical providers.

In support of the 2012 Great American Smoke Out on November 15th, all three of Health Analysis’ tobacco cessation metrics went live on the [Population Health Navigator \(PHN\) Dashboard](#). By tracking and comparison of performance on a variety of health indicators, the PHN Dashboard enables MTFs to better manage the health of their enrolled patient populations. [Health Analysis](#) provides clinical epidemiology expertise in the interpretation of patient population data and enhances the quality and validity of posted reports.

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Currently, PBB funds are allocated for the third metric, with the expectation that the first two will also be funded. [Health Analysis](#) intends to create a fourth tobacco metric for patient quit rates, in order to measure outcomes of tobacco interventions.

Health Analysis develops performance measures and provides program evaluation. For more on NMCPHC’s Health Analysis Department visit: <http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nmcphc/health-analysis/>

POC and Links

- NMCPHC Homepage: <http://www.nmcphc.med.navy.mil/>
- Population Health Navigator Dashboard: <https://edq.med.navy.mil/PopHealthNAV/>